

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

In Paragraph [0119] beginning on page 20:

[0119] The shape processing unit 200 judges whether the reproduction of the shape of the given object has been completed or not (step 230). If the reproduction has not been completed yet, the shape processing unit 200 execute the step S210 again. If the reproduction has been completed, the shape processing unit 200 finishes the reproduction process.

In Paragraph [0144] beginning on page 25:

[0144] FIG. 12 is a figure that illustrates the imitation (or approximation) and reproduction procedure of the second embodiment. The figure shown in FIG. 12 is identical with the figure P in FIG. 17. As in the same way as the case of the shapes of three-dimensional objects, the figure is reproduced by a series of reference bodies. Note that the reference body is a triangle in this case since the figure is two-dimensional.

In Paragraph [0145] beginning on page 25:

[0145] FIG. 13 is the code table used in the procedure of the second embodiment. In this embodiment, the figure P in FIG. 28 is represented by a chain of twenty-six triangles as is shown in FIG. 12. The folding of the chain is encoded into a sequence of 0 and 1 using the table of FIG. 13.

In Paragraph [0147] beginning on page 26:

[0147] Using the table of FIG. [[24]] 13, the figure in FIG. [[23]] 12 is encoded into such a sequence of 0 and 1 that

1 0110 1011 0101 1110 1001 0011.

In Paragraph [0149] beginning on page 26:

[0149] FIG. [[25]] 14 is a sequence of 0 and 1 produced by the procedure of the second embodiment. The upper most value in FIG. 25 corresponds to the right most place of the sequence above. The sequence corresponds to approximation information acquired by an approximation information acquiring unit 270 in the first embodiment.

In Paragraph [0150] beginning on page 26:

[0150] FIG. [[26]] 15 illustrates steps executed by the reproducing procedure of the second embodiment. It shows the folding of a series of triangles specified by the sequence in FIG. 25. First, one proceeds to the right triangle in step S1 since the code of the initial triangle is 1. In step S2, one proceeds to the right since the code of the second triangle is also 1. In step S3, one proceeds to the left since the code of the third triangle is 0. Continuing the steps, one obtains a figure encoded by the sequence of 0 and 1. This process corresponds to the reproducing process executed by a reproducing unit 280 in the first embodiment. FIG. [[27]] 16 shows a figure reproduced by the reproducing procedure of the second embodiment.

In Paragraph [0151] beginning on page 27:

[0151] In this way, the figure P in FIG. [[28]] 17 is expressed by a sequence of 0 and 1, i.e., a simple data set without any internal structure. In the case of three-dimensional objects, the shape of a object is expressed by a sequence of 0 and 1 using a chain of tetrahedrons, each of which consists of such four identical triangles that the ratio of

length of the sides is  $2:\sqrt{3}:\sqrt{3}$ . Tetrahedrons are connected each other on the longer edges. And the coding rule is given by the table in FIG. 10.